AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the U.S. National Phase filing under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT/JP2005/001798, filed February 8, 2005, which designated the United States and was published in a language other than English, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) to Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2004-045043, filed February 20, 2004; 2004-045044, filed February 20, 2004; 2004-182300, filed June 21, 2004; and 2004-182301, filed June 21, 2004. The content of these applications is incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

At page 1, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 10 and ending at line 14.

At page 9, please replace paragraph [0016] with the following paragraph:

In the above general formula (I), R_{11} through R_{17} each represent, independently, an alkyl group or aromatic hydrocarbon group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and these structures may also include a hetero atom. The groups R_{11} through R_{17} preferably each represent, independently, a straight-chain[[,]] or branched~~, or cyclic~~ lower alkyl group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and even more preferably 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a cyclic alkyl group of 5 to 6 carbon atoms, or an aromatic hydrocarbon group of 6 to 10 carbon atoms. These alkyl groups or aromatic hydrocarbon groups may include a hetero atom such as an oxygen atom, nitrogen atom, or sulfur atom within the structure. Specific examples of suitable aromatic hydrocarbon groups include a phenyl group, tolyl group, xylyl group, mesityl group, phenethyl group, or naphthyl group.

At pages 12-13, please replace paragraph [0020] with the following paragraph:

In the above general formula (III), R_{31} through ~~R_{36}~~ R_{38} each represent, independently, an alkyl group or aromatic hydrocarbon group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and these structures may

also include a hetero atom. The groups R_{31} through ~~R_{36}~~ R_{38} preferably each represent, independently, a straight-chain[[,]] or branched~~, or cyclic~~ lower alkyl group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and even more preferably 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a cyclic alkyl group of 5 to 6 carbon atoms, or an aromatic hydrocarbon group of 6 to 10 carbon atoms. These alkyl groups or aromatic hydrocarbon groups may include a hetero atom such as an oxygen atom, nitrogen atom, or sulfur atom within the structure. Specific examples of suitable aromatic hydrocarbon groups include a phenyl group, tolyl group, xylyl group, mesityl group, phenethyl group, or naphthyl group. Of these possibilities, cases in which R_{31} through ~~R_{36}~~ R_{38} are all lower alkyl groups are preferred. Compounds in which these lower alkyl groups contain from 1 to 5 carbon atoms are even more desirable.

a and e each represent, independently, an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer from 1 to 2, f represents either 0 or an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer that does not exceed 2, and a+e+f is no greater than 5.

b and h each represent, independently, an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer from 1 to 2, g represents either 0 or an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer that does not exceed 2, and b+h+g is no greater than 5.

c and i each represent, independently, an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer from 1 to 2, j represents either 0 or an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer that does not exceed 2, and c+i+j is no greater than 5.

d represents an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer from 1 to 2, k and l each represent, independently, either 0 or an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer that does not exceed 2, and d+k+l is no greater than 3.

At pages 21-22, please replace paragraph [0035] with the following paragraph:

In the above formula, R_1 through R_6 each represent, independently, an alkyl group or aromatic hydrocarbon group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and these structures may also include a hetero atom. More specifically, the groups R_1 through R_6 each represent, independently, a straight-chain[[,]] or branched~~, or cyclic~~ lower alkyl group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and even more preferably 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a cyclic alkyl group of 5 to 6 carbon atoms, or an aromatic hydrocarbon group. These alkyl groups or aromatic hydrocarbon groups may include a hetero

atom such as an oxygen atom, nitrogen atom, or sulfur atom within the structure. Specific examples of suitable aromatic hydrocarbon groups include a phenyl group, tolyl group, xylyl group, mesityl group, phenethyl group, or naphthyl group.

g and j each represent, independently, an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer from 1 to 2, k represents either 0 or an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer that does not exceed 2, and g+j+k is no greater than 5.

h is an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably from 1 to 2, l and m each represent, independently, either 0 or an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer that does not exceed 2, and h+l+m is no greater than 4.

i is an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably from 1 to 2, n and o each represent, independently, either 0 or an integer of 1 or greater, and preferably an integer that does not exceed 2, and i+n+o is no greater than 4.

p is either 0 or 1, and is preferably 1.

Of these possibilities, compounds in which R_1 is a cycloalkyl group or a lower alkyl group of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, j is 1, R_2 is a lower alkyl group, k is 1, and g is 1 are preferred.

In addition, compounds in which R_1 is a cycloalkyl group or a lower alkyl group of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, j is 1, R_2 is a lower alkyl group, k is 1, and g is 1, and moreover, l, m, n and o are zero, and h and i are both 1 enable the formation of a fine pattern with reduced LER and a high level of resolution, and are consequently preferred.

At page 23, please replace paragraph [0036] with the following paragraph:

Of the polyhydric phenol compounds represented by the above general formula ~~(I)~~ (IV), the most preferred compounds are the polyhydric phenol compounds represented by formulas (V) and (VI) shown below.

At page 58, please replace the paragraph at line 10 with the following paragraph:

The results are shown in Table [[1]] 2.

At page 58, please replace paragraph [0093] with the following paragraph:

[Example 3]

The base material for a pattern-forming material (a1) obtained in the production example [[1]] 3, together with 10% by weight of triphenylsulfonium nonafluorobutanesulfonate and 1% by weight of tri-n-octylamine relative to the combined solid fraction within the base material were dissolved in a mixed solvent of ethyl lactate / propylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate = 40/60 (weight ratio), thus forming a positive resist composition solution with a solid fraction concentration of 6% by weight.

At page 59, please replace paragraph [0096] with the following paragraph:

[Evaluation Tests]

Using the positive resist compositions obtained in the examples 3 and 4, and the comparative example 2, the evaluations described below were conducted. The results are shown in Table [[1]] 2.

At page 60, please replace paragraph [0098] with the following paragraph:

[Table 2]

	Polyhydric phenol compound	Molecular weight	Dispersity	Protection ratio (mol%)	Abundance ratio (% by weight)				Resolution	Surface roughness
					Unprotected material	1-protected material	2-protected material	Other		
Example [[1]] 3	MBSA	981	1	19.9	41.9	18.3	20.3	19.5	50 nm L/S	1.98 nm
Example [[2]] 4	MBSA-2	708	1	50.1	18.8	27.6	30.9	22.7	80 nm L/S	0.9 nm
Comparative example [[1]] 2	MBSA	981	1	17.1	80.3	3.8	4.2	11.7	80 nm L/S	2.62 nm